

Technology Lab director 2 hours per week at each school (\$25 per hour; 36 weeks @ 2 hours per week; 7 schools)	School Year		QBE Instructional budget
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### **Instructional Uses of Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1:** *APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONAL SOFTWARE, ALIGNED TO GA. QCC, IS USED ACROSS THE SYSTEM*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Teachers include specific technology applications referenced to QCC objectives in their lesson plans at least once per week by June 2003.*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Research best software applications and recommend for purchase.	August – December, 2002	Task force chaired by Associate Supt. For Instruction	None needed
2. Purchase and install recommended software	January – March, 2003	Media & technology Specialists	Amount unknown at this time; Title I and media funds
3. Train teachers on use of software purchased	March – May, 2003	Technology specialists	None needed

**GOAL 2:** *STUDENTS USE APPROPRIATE KEYBOARDING SKILLS WHEN USING COMPUTERS.*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Task force will research keyboarding instruction for elementary school students and present recommendations by June, 2003; Implementation to follow as recommended by Task force.*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Research best software applications and instructional designs for elementary school keyboarding instruction; recommend software for purchase.	August – May, 2003	Task force chaired by Vocational Director	None needed
2. Implement keyboarding instruction countywide in elementary school, as recommended.	2003-2004 school year	Administrators	Cost of license for software, unknown at this time.

**GOAL 3: STUDENTS INCORPORATE TECHNOLOGY, ESPECIALLY USE OF INTERNET RESOURCES, INTO REFERENCE AND RESEARCH**

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By the 2003-2004 school year, all students in grades 4-12 will be required to complete research using technology and present findings at least twice per school year (research paper, science fair, etc.)*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Provide teacher training, via grade level/department workshops, on incorporating technology in student research assignments	August, 2002 – May, 2003	Staff development director	None needed – uses local teachers to teach colleagues during planning time

**Administrative Uses of Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1: IMPLEMENT NEW STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM TO REPLACE OSIRIS FOR ATTENDANCE, GRADES, FTE, TRANSCRIPTS, DISCIPLINS, ETC.**

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By November 2002, task force will select and recommend for purchase a new SIS software package*
- *By June 2003, new SIS software package will be installed, key personnel will be trained, and the SIS package will be in use in all schools.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Task force will review, select and recommend for purchase a new SIS software package	July – November, 2002	FTE Coordinator	None needed
2. Purchase and install SIS software	January, 2003	Finance Director	\$132,000; Special state funding (@\$115,000) plus local funds
3. Train personnel on SIS use	February – May, 2003	Technology specialists; FTE coordinator	None needed

**GOAL 2: IMPLEMENT NEW ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE PACKAGE TO REPLACE GENESIS.**

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By June 2003, task force will select and recommend for purchase a new Accounting software package.*
- *By June 2004, new Accounting software package will be installed, key personnel will be trained, and the Accounting software will be in use in the system.*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Task force will review, select and recommend for purchase a new Accounting software package	January – May, 2003	Finance Director	None needed
2. Purchase and install SIS software	July, 2003	Finance Director	\$137,000; Special state funding (@\$115,000) plus local funds
3. Train personnel on SIS use	September – December, 2003	Software consultants	Cost unknown; Staff development funds

**Parent Uses of Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1: DETERMINE WHAT BARRIERS EXIST FOR PARENTS BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN.**

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Devise and conduct parent survey, including parental needs for technological services, by May, 2003*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Special committee from School Councils will devise and conduct survey	January – April, 2003	School Councils	Cost unknown; Funded by PTO's

**GOAL 2: DETERMINE COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS AND NEEDS OF EMPLOYERS RELATED TO TECHNOLOGY**

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Devise and conduct survey of business and industry leaders via Chamber of Commerce by September, 2003*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Special committee from School Councils will devise and conduct survey	May - September 2003	School Councils	Cost unknown; Funded by PTO's

**Technology Support – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1: TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT STAFF WILL BE ADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN NETWORKS AND MACHINES**

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By August 2003, employ total of 4 Technology Specialists*
- *By August 2004, employ total of 5 Technology Specialists*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Budget for increased staff; recruit and screen applicants; recommend person to be hired	January – April, 2003	Finance Director; Personnel Director	Cost unknown; Local funds
2. Budget for increased staff; recruit and screen applicants; recommend person to be hired	January – April, 2004	Finance Director; Personnel Director	Cost unknown; Local funds

**GOAL 2: TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT STAFF DEDICATED TO TECHNOLOGY TRAINING WILL BE EMPLOYED.**

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By July 2003, one full-time Technology trainer will be employed*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Budget for increased staff; recruit and screen applicants; recommend person to be hired	January – April, 2003	Finance Director; Personnel Director	Cost unknown; Local funds

## **Communication and Marketing Plan**

*The Technology Plan will be widely disseminated in the Elbert County School system and community. Final copies of the Plan will be presented and explained to School Councils, leadership groups, and community groups, including Family Connection/Communities in Schools and the Chamber of Commerce.*

The System Media/Technology Committee will continue as a Steering group for implementation and revision of the plan. The various strategies and benchmarks will be displayed in chart form on a timeline continuum, creating a checklist for monitoring implementation. Formal progress checks will be performed each year on July 1, December 1, and March 1 to maintain focus on goals. The plan and progress reports will form the basis of any support and rationale needed for budget requests made to the BOE, Superintendent and Chief Finance Officer of the system.

Each school media/technology committee will be asked to highlight technology success stories each semester. Rather than highlight technology inventories and purchases, these “success stories” will focus on exemplary uses of technology in instruction, demonstrating how technology is being used to improve student achievement and teach QCC objectives. The Steering Committee will use these narratives in local publicity to make the community and parents aware of technology achievements and accomplishments.

The Technology Plan will be continuously updated and revised with broad input from various sources.

## Appendices

### ELBERT COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

#### INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE and SAFETY POLICY

Please read the following carefully before signing the attached contract. This is a legally binding document.

**MISSION:** To provide students, faculty and staff guidelines to access the Internet by or through computers, networks or other devices belonging to the Elbert County School System and to clarify Internet objectives of the Elbert County School System.

**INTERNET SAFETY:** The Superintendent shall, with respect to the mission statement, institute, maintain and enforce procedures or guidelines which:

- insure that a qualifying “technology protection measure,” as that term is defined in section 1721 of the **Children’s Internet Protection Act, CIPA**, of 2000, is installed and in continuous operation;
- institute, maintain, and enforce procedures or guidelines which provide for monitoring the online activities of users and the use of the chosen technology protection measure to prevent access to visual depictions that are (i) obscense, (ii) child pornography, or (iii) “harmful to minors,” as that term is defined in section 1721 of the CIPA of 2000.
- provide for monitoring the online activities of users to limit, to the extent practicable, access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web;
- are designed to promote the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- are designed to prevent unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unauthorized activities by users online;
- are designed to prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information.
- allow administrators and faculty to review files and electronic messages stored, transmitted or received on school-based computers.

#### EXPECTATIONS IN USE OF THE INTERNET

- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not access material that is obscene, pornographic, child pornography, “harmful to minors,” or otherwise inappropriate for educational uses.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not use school resources to engage in “hacking” or attempts to otherwise compromise system security.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not engage in any illegal activities on the Internet.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall only use electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications for school-related purposes.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not disclose personal information, such as name, school, address, and telephone number outside of the school network.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** should understand that access to the Internet is a privilege, not a right.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** ‘S use of the Internet must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the school system.
- **STUDENTS** shall not download software, games, etc. onto a computer without the consent of a teacher.
- **TEACHERS** shall guide students toward topics that have been matched to specific learning objectives rather than allowing the students to “surf” the Internet.
- **FAULTY AND STAFF** should monitor the online activities of users to limit, to the extent practicable, access by users to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web.

## ENFORCEMENT OF POLICY:

- The Elbert County School System uses technology protection measures that block and/or filter Internet access to limit access to some Internet sites that are not in accordance with the policy of the Elbert County School System.
- Elbert County School System staff will monitor **ALL USERS** use of the Internet, through either direct supervision, or by monitoring Internet use history, to ensure enforcement of the policy.
- **ANY VIOLATION OF SCHOOL POLICY MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF SCHOOL-PROVIDED ACCESS TO THE INTERNET. ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION MAY BE DETERMINED IN KEEPING WITH EXISTING PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES. WHEN AND WHERE APPLICABLE, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES MAY BE INVOLVED.**

Elbert County School System believes that the benefits to students provided by access to the Internet far exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that end, the Elbert County School System supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to permit a child Internet access. Only students who have returned a signed Internet user agreement including parental permission may request access to the Internet.

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## USER AGREEMENT AND PARENT PERMISSION FORM

NAME OF STUDENT, FACULTY AND STAFF \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT:** SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

**FACULTY and STAFF:** SCHOOL/LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

As a user of the Elbert County School System's computer network, I have read and hereby agree to comply with the Elbert County Acceptable Use Policy concerning computer use.

**STUDENT, FACULTY AND STAFF SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_

### **PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF STUDENT, PLEASE SIGN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**

As the parent or legal guardian of the minor student signing above, I have read and discussed the Elbert County Acceptable Use Policy. And in doing so, I **GRANT PERMISSION** for my son or daughter to access resources provided over the Internet such as electronic mail and the World Wide Web. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. I understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for my child's appropriate Internet use.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

As the parent or legal guardian of the minor student signing above, I have read and discussed the Elbert County Acceptable Use Policy with my student. And in doing so, I choose to **DENY PERMISSION** for my son or daughter to access to resources provided over the Internet such as electronic mail and the World Wide Web.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Interoperability Procedures***

In order to ensure that all technology components purchased and installed in the Elbert County School System are compatible and conform to current State recommendations and industry standards, it is the policy of Elbert County Schools that all purchase requests are reviewed by the Technology Director prior to orders being approved and sent to vendors.

### **Redeployment of Equipment**

In the event that any technology equipment is no longer useful at the site where it was installed, the following steps will be taken:

1. Submit a list of equipment to Technology Director
2. Technology Director will circulate the list of equipment to all Technology Specialists and Media Specialists.
3. If another site can use the equipment, it will be transferred to another site within the system for use.
4. If no current use can be made of the equipment, it will be stored for possible use as spare parts if recommended by Technology Specialists, and if space for storage is available.
5. If the equipment is not to be kept for parts or used in another site, the equipment will be declared surplus and sold at the system's annual auction of surplus property.
1. If the equipment is not sold at the auction, the maintenance director will dispose of the equipment as required by environmental regulations.



**ELBERT COUNTY SCHOOLS**

**TECHNOLOGY PLAN**

**July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2008**

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## **Review of Previous Plan**

Elbert County Schools' Technology Plan for the period Jul 1, 2002 – June 30, 2005 was reviewed as a part of developing this revised Technology Plan. It is gratifying to note that many of the improvements suggested in the previous plan have actually been implemented in the system during the last three years, and in some cases we have gone beyond what was envisioned.

Significant improvements in our infrastructure have been installed. Internal connections have been upgraded at each school. These improvements included switches, structured cabling, PBX, and TV distribution systems. In addition, new Novell servers have been installed at each school. New systems capable of supporting Windows XP and the PowerSchool student information system are in place. While not at the levels we would like, access to modern computers is greater than before. The majority of teachers and support staff members have been involved in staff development activities, resulting in increased comfort with technology and more integration of technology into the classroom learning process.

## **Planning Process**

### Involvement and responsibility for planning

The Elbert County Technology Plan was formulated with input from a wide range of persons, both within the school system and external. We began in the spring of 2005 with our Technology Specialists attending information sessions about the planning process. The Technology Specialists met with the System Media/Technology Committee to discuss the Technology Plan and brainstorm ideas for local planning. It was decided that the System Media/Technology Committee would function as a steering committee to guide the planning process, and they would seek input from a wide variety of people in the community. Members of the System Media/Technology Committee include: Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Special Education Director; Media Specialists from each school (7); Technology Specialists (3); principals (2); teachers and parents. The System Media/Technology Committee met regularly to assemble the Technology Plan.

In addition to the Steering Committee, input and feedback were obtained from several sources as the plan was formulated.

- The System Leadership Team discussed Technology Planning efforts at their monthly meetings. This team includes: Superintendent, Associate Superintendent for Instruction, Associate Superintendent for Personnel/Title I, Special Education director, Finance director, FTE coordinator, Facilities/Maintenance director, Food Service director, Transportation director, and all school principals.
- Each school's Media/Technology Committee reviewed drafts and gave suggestions. These committees include media specialists, administrators,

teachers, parents, community members, PTO representatives, and students. The school Media/Technology Committees meet as needed at each school throughout the year, but at least two meetings were held at each school.

- Each school's School Council reviewed drafts and provided feedback. School Councils meet monthly, and the Technology Plan was included on two of their monthly meeting agendas. The School Councils are made up of the principal, teachers, parents, and business partners. At one school, one of the teacher representatives is a special education teacher. Two schools have the media specialist as a member of the School Council.
- The Board of Directors of Elbert County Communities In Schools and Family Connection reviewed the document at one of their monthly meetings and provided suggestions. Representatives on this board include school system leaders, health department nurse, Elberton Police Chief, DFCS director, Adult Literacy Director, Athens Technical College Vice-President, Communities In Schools program director, Elbert Memorial Hospital financial officer, juvenile court judge, business leaders, and parents.
- ESOL teachers (we have one at elementary, one for middle school, and one for high school students) were asked to review the proposed plan and give suggestions for addressing ESOL student needs.

Final writing of the Technology Plan was done by the Associate Superintendent for Instruction and one of the Technology Specialists. They incorporated suggestions from all the groups and individuals listed above.

#### Integration/Coordination with other planning initiatives

Because Elbert County is a small school system (7 schools) with limited administrative staff, coordination with other planning initiatives is not complex. The Superintendent and Associate Superintendent for Instruction are involved in all long-range planning efforts in the system. The Associate Superintendent for Instruction serves the following roles, all of which have long-range planning responsibilities: Professional Learning coordinator, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Title VI coordinator, Title II coordinator, Title IV coordinator, Media director, and liaison to Family Connection Collaborative. The Associate Superintendent for Instruction shares an office with the Associate Superintendent for Personnel/Title I and the Special Education Director, and there is on-going communication about all system programs and plans.

The System School Improvement Plan is updated annually. The group responsible for this plan includes: Superintendent; Associate Superintendent for Instruction; Associate Superintendent for Personnel and Title I; Principals (2); Assistant Principal (2); High School Guidance director; BOE chairman and one BOE member; teachers (2), parents, and business partners. As this plan is updated, Technology components are being integrated with it.

## Student Needs

### Student academic needs

A review of the most recent test scores on standardized tests reveals that Elbert County students need to improve achievement in all academic areas. Weaknesses are evident across all grade levels and in all ethnic groups.

<u>Student Academic Need</u>	<u>Evidence/Data</u>
1. Improve achievement in <u>Reading</u>	Grade 3 ITBS (2004) = 60 %ile Average NPR Grade 5 ITBS (2004) = 49 %ile Average NPR Grade 8 ITBS (2004) = 30 %ile Average NPR Grade 3 CRCT (2005) = 5 % at Level 1 Grade 5 CRCT (2005) = 10% at Level 1 Grade 8 CRCT (2005) = 21% at Level 1 High School Average Verbal SAT (2004) = 484
2. Improve achievement in <u>Math</u>	Grade 3 ITBS (2004) = 54 %ile Average NPR Grade 5 ITBS (2004) = 42 %ile Average NPR Grade 8 ITBS (2004) = 40 %ile Average NPR Grade 3 CRCT (2005) = 8% at Level 1 Grade 5 CRCT (2005) = 16% at Level 1 Grade 8 CRCT (2005) = 40% at Level 1 High School Average Math SAT (2004) = 489
3. Improve achievement in <u>Science</u>	Ga. High School Graduation Test, Science (2004) = 48% of 1 <sup>st</sup> time test-takers passed
4. Improve achievement in <u>Social Studies</u>	Ga. High School Graduation Test, Social Studies (2004) = 66% of 1 <sup>st</sup> time test-takers passed
5. Improve achievement in <u>Writing</u>	Ga. High School Graduation Test, Writing (2002) = 75% of 1 <sup>st</sup> time test-takers passed

### Academic needs of special populations

ESOL Students: Standardized tests are not disaggregated for ESOL students because our system had too few students to report.

MINORITY Students: (Grade 3 shown as example; similar pattern in other grades)

African American:	Reading:	Grade 3 CRCT (2005) = 10% at Level 1
	Math:	Grade 3 CRCT (2005) = 11% at Level 1

SPECIAL EDUCATION Students:

	Reading:	Grade 3 CRCT (2005) = 15% at Level 1
	Math:	Grade 3 CRCT (2005) = 26% at Level 1

### Student technology literacy needs

The majority of Elbert County students meet the following technology integration standards:

#### *Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade*

- Identifies basic technology tools
- Demonstrates understanding of basic technology and telecommunication tools
- Demonstrates an understanding of the uses of technology and communication tools at home and in the community
- Follows established rules for the care and use of technology tools
- Operates basic technology tools and applications

#### *3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (Includes above and adds the following)*

- Utilizes technology tools to facilitate the writing process with teacher guidance
- Uses technology to gather information and communicate with others with teacher guidance
- Recognizes appropriate uses of information and information technology
- Uses basic research techniques with teacher guidance
- Uses technology to solve problems and make decisions with teacher guidance

#### *6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (Includes above and adds the following)*

- Uses technology tools to create charts and graphs with teacher guidance
- Uses multimedia tools to express ideas with teacher guidance
- Applies word processing/desktop-publishing tools to facilitate the writing process
- Demonstrates ethical and legal use of technology and information

#### *9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade (Includes above and adds the following)*

- Uses technology tools independently
- Manages information with databases and spreadsheets
- Uses technology tools to convey information and ideas, communicate, and collaborate at all levels from interpersonal to global

Elbert County students need to move beyond teacher-directed use of technology tools toward more independent application of technology uses. Students need a wide variety of technology skills at an earlier age. Too often, students are told exactly what to do with technology, rather than allowed to explore and apply their knowledge and skills.

## **District Vision Statement**

### *Elbert County School System Vision (from Comprehensive School Improvement Plan):*

The Elbert County School System will work with the community to provide the best possible educational opportunities to meet the needs of all students. Students will be prepared for post-secondary educational opportunities, either college or technical training, or be prepared to enter the work force upon graduation. Students will be actively engaged in learning and work to their individual potential. Educators will use innovative methods and challenge all students to meet high standards. The educational program will integrate technology for personal, academic, and career needs. Parents will be involved in the education of their children. The community will be informed about the educational opportunities and challenges locally, and will provide necessary resources for meeting the needs of students. Schools will be safe and supportive environments.

### *Vision for Technology:*

Technology is an essential component of realizing the school system's vision, as stated in the Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. Without technological resources, the vision cannot become a reality. Our vision for technology in Elbert County Schools is that teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will have access to technology through a wireless environment and will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program. The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas. Increased use of Internet access is anticipated across the district. Increased video distribution for educational purposes is also anticipated. Proper maintenance and performance of all network and communications equipment will continue to be a high priority.

## **District Goals and Performance Objectives for Student Achievement and Tech Literacy**

### *Goal I: Improve student achievement (from Comprehensive School Improvement Plan)*

1. Annually increase student attendance
2. Articulate curriculum K-12 in all subjects
3. Increase student test scores
4. Disaggregate and interpret student achievement data
5. Increase percent of students reading on grade level by third grade

### *Goal for Technology Literacy: Integrate technology in all areas of instruction*

1. Increase teacher/staff competence in technology use
  - In-Tech training for all teachers
  - more technology support staff
2. Increase access to up-to-date technology, both hardware and software
  - 4 computers per classroom



- infrastructure improvements, including wireless access
- 3. Improve administrative use of technology
  - new student information system and support
  - new financial/accounting software system

## **Current Status of Other Educational Variables**

Selected information for Elbert County taken from Georgia Public Education Report Card, 2003-2004:

- Enrollment: 3591 (K-12); 120 (Pre-K)
- Socioeconomic status: 54.1% eligible for free/reduced price lunch
- Dropout Rate: 7.8%
- High School completion rate: 57%
- County Per Capita Income: \$22,567
- Ethnicity of Student Body: White = 55%  
Black = 40%  
Hispanic = 4%

## **External Scan**

### Needs of community and business

Elbert County has a high unemployment rate. Because of our depressed economic status, the community is considered a Tier 1 county by the Georgia Department of Industry and Trade. Chamber of Commerce officials report that there is a definite need for a better-educated work force with advanced technological skills. Employers need workers who have basic literacy and math skills, a good “work ethic,” and the ability to work with technology in manufacturing and service sector jobs. Elberton is a center for granite quarrying and manufacturing. The granite industry is becoming more technologically advanced, with high tech applications in quarrying, cutting, polishing, and finishing the stone. Computer-assisted drafting is important to the granite industry, along with office workers with computer skills for managing the sales and distribution of the granite products.

## **Technology Mission and Vision**

### System’s vision for technology use

The vision for technology use in Elbert County Schools is that all teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will have access to technology through a wireless environment and will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program and system administration. The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable

teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas.

#### System's technology mission statement

The mission for the technology department in Elbert County Schools is to increase and improve the current and future technologies with the intent of enhancing learning and teaching. Technology must be an integral part of the overall plan to move students to a higher academic level by shifting the focus from teaching to active learning. The integration of technology will strengthen existing curricula and support meaningful, engaged learning for all students. Technology will be used to increase the school system's productivity and efficiency. Technology department staff will be available to facilitate and support all technological applications for students, teachers and administrators. District network performance and required infrastructure to sustain growing communication needs will be important.

#### **Current Reality**

##### Access to technology (data taken from Technology Inventory, December 2004)

Elbert County operates seven schools, with a total of 285 classrooms for 3711 students in Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12. There are a total of 529 modern (as defined by Ga. DOE) desktop computers, 17 laptops, and 7 servers in the system. All system computers operate on the Windows operating system.

69% of Elbert County's classrooms have 1 or 2 modern computers; 22% of the classrooms in the district have no modern computer available, and the other classrooms contain more than 2 computers. Several computer labs are available in the high school and middle school; 3 of the elementary schools have computer labs available. All system computers are connected to the LAN and all have internet access. The ratio of students per classroom computer is 6.46.

In addition to computers, 100% of the classrooms are connected to the video distribution system and receive PeachStar programming. 357 printers are available for instructional use and 42 printers are used for administrative functions. There are 45 scanners; 17 digital cameras; 283 televisions; 12 camcorders; 18 LCD projectors; 10 FAX machines; and 198 graphing calculators. 1 assistive or adaptive device is in use for special needs students. The system has installed a networked telephone system with voice mail capability throughout all sites, making voice communication more efficient. All media centers use the Winnebago/Sage Brush Spectrum automation system for checkout, inventory, and card catalog functions.

### Instructional uses of technology

All elementary and middle school students use the Accelerated Reader program to track books read. STAR software is used in conjunction with Accelerated Reader to determine *student reading levels and appropriate books for earning AR points*. A variety of other computer software programs are being used throughout the system to improve academic performance and performance on standardized tests. Many of these programs provide practice on specific skills. In the High School and Alternative School, NovaNet has been made available and provides a wide range of high school curriculum. Students use the NovaNet system for credit recovery before and after school and in the summer school program. Students and teachers also use word processing and e-mail extensively. Some students and teachers use presentation applications (PowerPoint), but lack of projection equipment reduces the use of this application. Students and teachers use the internet for reference and research. Internet resources will play a greater role in research and growth (increased bandwidth) in this area is anticipated.

### Administrative uses of technology

All teachers in the system maintain an electronic grade book using the Power Grade software and submit grades to the school office via computer. All report cards and progress reports are printed from Power Grade. Elbert County currently uses Power School for FTE and Student Information and GENESIS for accounting. E-mail is used for much of the intra-system communications.

### Parent/Community uses of technology

Parents and students can access their grades on-line via the Power Grade program. Many parents and students have begun to take advantage of this option. No assessment has been made of technology use or access by parents and community. Elberton has a "Power-Up" computer lab housed at the public library which is open to the public. However, the library's hours are limited and the library is not open nights and weekends.

### System readiness for technology

Teacher and administrator competence with technology has improved. Only approximately 25 professional staff members have not completed In-Tech training or demonstrated competency as described in the Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements. Most teachers have at least one computer in their home. Teachers remain more confident using the computer for productivity (word processing, e-mail, grades) than instructional uses.

### System support for technology

The Elbert County school system employs 6 full-time technology specialists for technology support. These specialists provide services to the central office, 7 schools and the Alternative School site. These experts install and maintain hardware and software,

provide specifications and advice on technology purchases, trouble-shoot problems with the networks or individual machines, instruct staff in use of technology, and maintain technology inventories. In addition, each school's media specialist provides building-level expertise in technology use. Independent contractors are employed to teach professional and para-professional personnel specific technology-related professional development courses.

## **Gap Analysis**

### Access to technology

Our system goal is to have 4 modern networked computers in each classroom. Currently, most classrooms have 1 or 2 computers, so we will need to more than double the number of classroom computers currently in the system. Most classrooms do not have the necessary wiring to accommodate 4 computers, so significant investments in infrastructure will be needed. We hope to move to wireless access as much as possible. More equipment for PowerPoint presentations is needed at all schools.

### Instructional uses of technology

Teachers need continued extensive staff development training in the mechanics of using technology before they feel confident enough to incorporate technology in their instructional program. Software programs need to be evaluated before funds are spent for purchasing these programs. Teachers need to learn how to use technology to teach the QCC or GPS objectives

### Administrative uses of technology

The GENESIS accounting program is outdated and needs to be replaced with more up-to-date software applications for Accounting functions. Teachers need to become more skillful in using Power Grade functions.

### Parent/Community uses of technology

We need to obtain current data from parents and the community about their use of technology. More access to public computers is needed, perhaps in shopping areas, housing projects, etc.

### System readiness for technology

Teacher training is the biggest gap in this area. All teachers who have not completed In-Tech or Georgia Special Technology Certification requirements must complete one or the other. Teachers need to be given an opportunity to observe colleagues who are using technology effectively in the instructional program.

### System support for technology

As our system's technology networks and computer hardware inventories expand, there will be a continued need for well-trained Technology Specialists to support and maintain the equipment. In addition, we need a person on staff dedicated to conducting technology training for teachers and administrators. Network security is a persistent concern.

## **Goals, Benchmarks, Evaluation & Persons Responsible**

### **Access to Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation:**

*VISION: All teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program and system administration.*

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Provide 4 modern computers per classroom	By June 2006, each classroom will have 2 modern computers	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
	By June 2007, each classroom will have 3 modern computers	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
2. Teachers and students will have access to equipment for presentations	By June 2006, each grade level at each elementary school will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
	By June 2006, each academic team at Elbert County Middle School will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
	By June 2006, each academic department at Elbert County High School will have at least two 25" TV's with scan converter to display computer screen AND/OR two LCD	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)

	projectors	
	By June 2006, the Technical Career Department at ECHS will have at least four 25" TV's with scan converters to display computer screen AND/OR four LCD projectors	Technology Inventory (Technology staff)
3. Students will have access to computer equipment after regular school hours	By August, 2006, a computer lab is open and staffed by a trained person from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at least one day per week in each school.	Administrative assurance (Principals & Superintendent)
4. Wireless Internet access will be available in all school system locations	By January, 2006, technology personnel will assess the feasibility and cost of going to a wireless environment	Technology staff documentation
	By March, 2006, a detailed plan will be formulated and presented to the Superintendent and BOE for consideration and possible budget allocation	Technology staff

**Instructional Uses of Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation:**

*VISION: The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas.*

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Appropriate instructional software, aligned to Ga. curriculum, is used across the system	Teachers include specific technology applications referenced to QCC or GPS objectives in their lesson plans at least once per week by June 2005.	Administrators' review of lesson plans and observations in classrooms. (Principals & Department heads)
2. Students use appropriate keyboarding skills when using computers	Task force will research keyboarding instruction for elementary school students and present recommendations by December , 2005.	Task force report (Vocational Director)

	Implementation to follow as recommended by Task force.	
3. Students incorporate technology, especially use of internet resources, into reference and research	By the 2005-2006 school year, all students in grades 4-12 will be required to complete research using technology and present findings at least twice per school year (research paper, science fair, etc.)	Administrator observation of student work (Principals)

**Administrative Uses of Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation :**

*VISION: All ... administrators, support personnel..... will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of ..... system administration.*

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Administrators will use wireless PDA's when away from their desk	By September, 2005, technology staff will select PDA provider and package for system.	Technology staff
2. Security systems will be installed in middle school and elementary schools	By February, 2006, technology staff and administrators will research and recommend security systems for middle and elementary schools, to be included in FY07 budget as feasible	Technology staff and administrators
3. Implement new Accounting software package to replace GENESIS	By March 2006, task force will select and recommend for purchase a new Accounting software package.	Recommendation made to BOE (Finance Director)
	By June 2006, new Accounting software package will be installed, key personnel will be trained, and the Accounting software will be in use in the system.	Accounting software will generate FY07 budget and other reports (Finance Director)

**Parent/Community Uses of Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation :**

*VISION: Parents will be involved in the education of their children. The community will be informed about the educational opportunities and challenges locally, and will provide necessary resources for meeting the needs of students.*

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Determine what barriers exist for parents becoming involved in the education of their children	Devise and conduct parent survey, including parental needs for technological services by May 2006	Survey conducted and analyzed. Recommendations made as a result of survey (School Councils)
2. Determine community perceptions and needs of employers related to technology	Devise and conduct survey of business and industry leaders via Chamber of Commerce by September, 2006	Survey conducted and analyzed. (School Councils & Chamber of Commerce3)

**System Readiness for Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation:**

*VISION: The use of technology will be integrated into the instructional program and will enable teachers and students to improve academic achievement at all levels and in all content areas.*

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. All teachers and staff will be competent in the use of technology.	By July 2006, 100% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency	Staff Development and Certification records (Staff Development Coordinator & Personnel Director)



**System Support for Technology -- Goals/Benchmarks/Evaluation :**

*VISION: All teachers, administrators, support personnel, and students will use up-to-date technological hardware and software to support and enhance all phases of the instructional program and system administration.*

GOAL	BENCHMARK	EVALUATION & (RESPONSIBILITY)
1. Technology support staff will be adequate to maintain networks and machines	Continue to employ total of 6 Technology Specialists	Personnel Records (Superintendent)
2. Technology support staff dedicated to technology training will be employed	By July 2006, one full-time Technology trainer will be employed	Personnel records (Superintendent)

## **Action Plan –**

### **Strategies Aligned to Goals; Timeline; Responsibility; Budget**

#### **Professional Development – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

*GOAL 1: ALL TEACHERS AND STAFF WILL BE COMPETENT IN THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY.*

*BENCHMARKS:*

- *By July 2006, 100% of all professional staff will complete In-Tech or Special Georgia Technology Certification requirements, including demonstrating competency.*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget</b>
1. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	May, 2006	Staff Development Coordinator	\$2000 State Staff Development funds
2. 20 professional staff will take the Special Georgia Technology Certification course offered in Elbert County	June, 2006	Staff Development Coordinator	\$2000 State Staff Development funds
3. 50 professional staff will participate in follow-up and extension activities focusing on integration of technology for teaching QCC/GPS objectives	2005-2006 school year	Technology Specialists	None needed; provided during teacher plan periods and teacher work days
4. 50 professional staff will participate in follow-up and extension activities focusing on integration of technology for teaching QCC objectives	2006-2007 school year	Technology Specialists	None needed; provided during teacher plan periods and teacher work days
5. 50 professional staff will participate in follow-up and extension activities focusing on integration of technology for teaching QCC objectives	2007-2008 school year	Technology Specialists	None needed; provided during teacher plan periods and teacher work days

**Access to Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1:** *PROVIDE 4 MODERN COMPUTERS PER CLASSROOM*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By June 2006, each classroom will have 2 modern computers*
- *By June 2007, each classroom will have 3 modern computers*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Purchase approximately 100 modern computers for classrooms; install on school networks	FY06	Technology and Media Specialists	\$100,000 Federal, State, and local Technology funds
2. Purchase approximately 100 modern computers for classrooms; install on school networks	FY07	Technology and Media Specialists	\$100,000 Federal, State, and local Technology funds
3. Purchase approximately 100 modern computers for classrooms; install on school networks	FY08	Technology and Media Specialists	\$100,000 Lottery funds; Federal Technology funds
4. Upgrade wiring/wireless infrastructure to accommodate 4 computers per classroom	FY07- FY08	Director of Facilities and Technology Specialists	Unknown cost; System M&O funds; E-Rate funds

**GOAL 2:** *TEACHERS & STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO EQUIPMENT FOR PRESENTATIONS.*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By June 2006, each grade level at each elementary school will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector*
- *By June 2006, each academic team at Elbert County Middle School will have at least one 25" TV with scan converter to display computer screen OR one LCD projector*
- *By June 2006, each academic department at Elbert County High School will have at least two 25" TV's with scan converter to display computer screen AND/OR two LCD projectors*

- *By June 2006, the Technical Career Department at ECHS will have at least four 25" TV's with scan converters to display computer screen AND/OR four LCD projectors.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. By January, 2006, establish a task force to recommend time line and funding priorities for this Goal area	January, 2006	Technology Committee	Unknown; task force to determine

**GOAL 3:** *STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AFTER SCHOOL HOURS.*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By August 2006, a computer lab is open and staffed by a trained person from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. at least one day per week in each school.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Hire Media Specialist or Technology Lab director 2 hours per week at each school (\$25 per hour; 36 weeks @ 2 hours per week; 7 schools)	2006-2007 School Year	Principals	\$12,600 Instructional budget
2. Hire Media Specialist or Technology Lab director 2 hours per week at each school (\$25 per hour; 36 weeks @ 2 hours per week; 7 schools)	2007-2008 School Year	Principals	\$12,600 QBE Instructional budget

### **Instructional Uses of Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1:** *APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONAL SOFTWARE, ALIGNED TO GA. QCC, IS USED ACROSS THE SYSTEM*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Teachers include specific technology applications referenced to Georgia Curriculum objectives in their lesson plans at least once per week by June 2003.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Research software applications needed and recommend for purchase.	Sept. –Dec. 2005	System and School Technology Committees	None needed
2. Purchase and install	January –	Media &	Amount unknown

recommended software	March, 2006	technology Specialists	at this time; Title I and media funds
3. Train teachers on use of software purchased	March – May, 2006	Technology specialists	None needed

**GOAL 2:** *STUDENTS USE APPROPRIATE KEYBOARDING SKILLS WHEN USING COMPUTERS.*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Task force will research keyboarding instruction for elementary school students and present recommendations by June, 2003; Implementation to follow as recommended by Task force.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Research best software applications and instructional designs for elementary school keyboarding instruction; recommend software for purchase.	Fall, 2005	Task force chaired by Vocational Director	None needed
2. Implement keyboarding instruction countywide in elementary school, as recommended.	2006-2007 school year	Administrators	Cost of license for software, unknown at this time.

**GOAL 3:** *STUDENTS INCORPORATE TECHNOLOGY, ESPECIALLY USE OF INTERNET RESOURCES, INTO REFERENCE AND RESEARCH*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By the 2005-2006 school year, all students in grades 4-12 will be required to complete research using technology and present findings at least twice per school year (research paper, science fair, etc.)*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Provide teacher training as needed, via grade level/departments workshops, on incorporating technology in student research assignments	On-going	Staff development director	None needed – uses local teachers to teach colleagues during planning time

### **Administrative Uses of Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1:** *Administrators will use wireless PDA's when away from their desk*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By September 2005, technology staff will select PDA provider and package for system*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Technology staff will review, select and recommend for purchase PDA's	August, 2005	Technology director and finance officer	Unknown

**GOAL 2:** *Security systems will be installed in middle school and elementary schools*  
**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By February 2006, technology staff and administrators will research and recommend security systems for middle and elementary schools, to be included in FY07 budget as feasible*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Technology staff will research and select appropriate security systems for middle school and elementary schools	October 2006- January 2006	Technology staff and administrators	None
2. BOE will consider proposals for funding during FY07 budget discussions	March, 2006	BOE & Supt.	Unknown

**GOAL 3:** *IMPLEMENT NEW ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE PACKAGE TO REPLACE GENESIS.*

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By March 2006, task force will select and recommend for purchase a new Accounting software package.*
- *By June 2007, new Accounting software package will be installed, key personnel will be trained, and the Accounting software will be in use in the system.*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Task force will review, select and recommend for purchase a new Accounting software package	January – March, 2006	Finance Director	None needed
2. Purchase and install Accounting software	June, 2006	Finance Director	Unknown
3. Train personnel on Accounting software use	September – December, 2006	Software consultants	Cost unknown; Staff development funds

### **Parent Uses of Technology – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1:** DETERMINE WHAT BARRIERS EXIST FOR PARENTS BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN.

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Devise and conduct parent survey, including parental needs for technological services, by May, 2006*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Special committee from School Councils will devise and conduct survey	January – April, 2006	School Councils	Cost unknown; Funded by PTO's

**GOAL 2:** DETERMINE COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS AND NEEDS OF EMPLOYERS RELATED TO TECHNOLOGY

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Devise and conduct survey of business and industry leaders via Chamber of Commerce by September, 2006*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Special committee from School Councils will devise and conduct survey	May - September 2006	School Councils	Cost unknown; Funded by PTO's

### **Technology Support – Strategies/Timeline/Responsibility/Budget**

**GOAL 1:** TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT STAFF WILL BE ADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN NETWORKS AND MACHINES

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *Continue to employ 6 Technology Specialists*

<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Budget &amp; Source</b>
1. Budget for staff; recruit and screen applicants for any open positions; recommend persons to be hired to any open positions.	On-going	Finance Director; Personnel Director	Cost unknown; Local funds

**GOAL 2:** TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT STAFF DEDICATED TO TECHNOLOGY TRAINING WILL BE EMPLOYED.

**BENCHMARKS:**

- *By July 2006, one full-time Technology trainer will be employed*

Strategy	Time	Responsibility	Budget & Source
1. Budget for increased staff; recruit and screen applicants; recommend person to be hired	January – April, 2006	Finance Director; Personnel Director	Cost unknown; Local funds

## **Communication and Marketing Plan**

The Technology Plan will be widely disseminated in the Elbert County School system and community. Final copies of the Plan will be presented and explained to School Councils, leadership groups, and community groups, including Family Connection/Communities in Schools and the Chamber of Commerce.

The System Media/Technology Committee will continue as a Steering group for implementation and revision of the plan. The various strategies and benchmarks will be displayed in chart form on a timeline continuum, creating a checklist for monitoring implementation. Formal progress checks will be performed each year on July 1, December 1, and March 1 to maintain focus on goals. The plan and progress reports will form the basis of any support and rationale needed for budget requests made to the BOE, Superintendent and Chief Finance Officer of the system.

Each school media/technology committee will be asked to highlight technology success stories each semester. Rather than highlight technology inventories and purchases, these “success stories” will focus on exemplary uses of technology in instruction, demonstrating how technology is being used to improve student achievement and teach QCC/GPS objectives. The Steering Committee will use these narratives in local publicity to make the community and parents aware of technology achievements and accomplishments.

The Technology Plan will be continuously updated and revised with broad input from various sources.



## **Appendices**

### **ELBERT COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM**

#### **INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE and SAFETY POLICY**

Please read the following carefully before signing the attached contract. This is a legally binding document.

**MISSION:** To provide students, faculty and staff guidelines to access the Internet by or through computers, networks or other devices belonging to the Elbert County School System and to clarify Internet objectives of the Elbert County School System.

**INTERNET SAFETY:** The Superintendent shall, with respect to the mission statement, institute, maintain and enforce procedures or guidelines which:

- insure that a qualifying “technology protection measure,” as that term is defined in section 1721 of the **Children’s Internet Protection Act, CIPA**, of 2000, is installed and in continuous operation;
- institute, maintain, and enforce procedures or guidelines which provide for monitoring the online activities of users and the use of the chosen technology protection measure to prevent access to visual depictions that are (i) obscene, (ii) child pornography, or (iii) “harmful to minors,” as that term is defined in section 1721 of the CIPA of 2000.
- provide for monitoring the online activities of users to limit, to the extent practicable, access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web;
- are designed to promote the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- are designed to prevent unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking,” and other unauthorized activities by users online;
- are designed to prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information.
- allow administrators and faculty to review files and electronic messages stored, transmitted or received on school-based computers.

#### **EXPECTATIONS IN USE OF THE INTERNET**

- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not access material that is obscene, pornographic, child pornography, “harmful to minors,” or otherwise inappropriate for educational uses.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not use school resources to engage in “hacking” or attempts to otherwise compromise system security.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not engage in any illegal activities on the Internet.

- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall only use electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications for school-related purposes.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** shall not disclose personal information, such as name, school, address, and telephone number outside of the school network.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** should understand that access to the Internet is a privilege, not a right.
- **STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF** 'S use of the Internet must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the school system.
- **STUDENTS** shall not download software, games, etc. onto a computer without the consent of a teacher.
- **TEACHERS** shall guide students toward topics that have been matched to specific learning objectives rather than allowing the students to "surf" the Internet.
- **FAULTY AND STAFF** should monitor the online activities of users to limit, to the extent practicable, access by users to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web.

### **ENFORCEMENT OF POLICY:**

- The Elbert County School System uses technology protection measures that block and/or filter Internet access to limit access to some Internet sites that are not in accordance with the policy of the Elbert County School System.
- Elbert County School System staff will monitor **ALL USERS** use of the Internet, through either direct supervision, or by monitoring Internet use history, to ensure enforcement of the policy.
- **ANY VIOLATION OF SCHOOL POLICY MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF SCHOOL-PROVIDED ACCESS TO THE INTERNET. ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINARY ACTION MAY BE DETERMINED IN KEEPING WITH EXISTING PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES. WHEN AND WHERE APPLICABLE, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES MAY BE INVOLVED.**

Elbert County School System believes that the benefits to students provided by access to the Internet far exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that end, the Elbert County School System supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to permit a child Internet access. Only students who have returned a signed Internet user agreement including parental permission may request access to the Internet.

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### **USER AGREEMENT AND PARENT PERMISSION FORM**

**NAME OF STUDENT, FACULTY AND STAFF**

**STUDENT:** SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

**FACULTY and STAFF:** SCHOOL/LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

As a user of the Elbert County School System's computer network, I have read and hereby agree to comply with the Elbert County Acceptable Use Policy concerning computer use.

**STUDENT, FACULTY AND STAFF SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_

### **PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF STUDENT, PLEASE SIGN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**

As the parent or legal guardian of the minor student signing above, I have read and discussed the Elbert County Acceptable Use Policy. And in doing so, I **GRANT PERMISSION** for my son or daughter to access resources provided over the Internet such

as electronic mail and the World Wide Web. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. I understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for my child's appropriate Internet use.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

As the parent or legal guardian of the minor student signing above, I have read and discussed the Elbert County Acceptable Use Policy with my student. And in doing so, I choose to **DENY PERMISSION** for my son or daughter to access to resources provided over the Internet such as electronic mail and the World Wide Web.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Interoperability Procedures**

In order to ensure that all technology components purchased and installed in the Elbert County School System are compatible and conform to current State recommendations and industry standards, it is the policy of Elbert County Schools that all purchase requests are reviewed by the Technology Director prior to orders being approved and sent to vendors.

### **Redeployment of Equipment**

In the event that any technology equipment is no longer useful at the site where it was installed, the following steps will be taken:

1. Submit a list of equipment to Technology Director
2. Technology Director will circulate the list of equipment to all Technology Specialists and Media Specialists.
3. If another site can use the equipment, it will be transferred to another site within the system for use.
4. If no current use can be made of the equipment, it will be stored for possible use as spare parts if recommended by Technology Specialists, and if space for storage is available.
5. If the equipment is not to be kept for parts or used in another site, the equipment will be declared surplus and sold at the system's annual auction of surplus property.
6. If the equipment is not sold at the auction, the maintenance director will dispose of the equipment as required by environmental regulations.